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Attorney Docket No. 18538.04

Customer No. 37833

Confirmation No. 8534

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE *PATENT* APPLICATION OF:

APPLICANT : **CONSTANCE S. MURRAY**

APPL. NO. : **10/799,632**

ART UNIT : **3616**

FILED : **MARCH 15, 2004**

EXAMINER : **BROWN, D.**

FOR : **ADD-ON SAFETY HARNESS FOR VEHICLES**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In the Office action dated April 11, 2006, the Examiner required an election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121 prior to an examination on the merits of above-identified application. The separate species of the claimed invention as identified by the Examiner are as follows:

- Species 1 : Figures 1-4;
- Species 2 : Figure 4; and
- Species 3 : Figures 6-8.

The Examiner further required Applicant to elect between Subspecies 1, shown in Figure 9, and Subspecies 2, shown in Figure 10. The Examiner apparently intended Figure "4" (designated as Species 2) to read Figure – 5 –.

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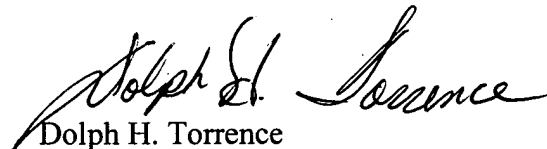
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In compliance with the Examiner's requirement, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse for further prosecution the embodiment shown in Figures 6-8 (designated as Species 3) and Subspecies 2 shown in Figure 10. Claims 12, 13 and 15-20 are considered to be readable on the elected species.

Notwithstanding the propriety of the election requirement for examination purposes, Applicant contends that she should be entitled to a consideration of a limited number of related embodiments falling within the scope of a generic inventive concept. Moreover, it would appear that a search and examination of the entire application could be accomplished without a serious burden on the Examiner since the various embodiments identified of record would seemingly encompass a common field of search.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the election requirement, and issue an action on the merits of all the embodiments presently in the case. Alternatively, should the Examiner maintain the requirement and make it final, Applicant awaits a complete action on the merits of the elected subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Dolph H. Torrence
Registration No. 34,501
(703) 486-1000

DHT:RCL